



## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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<b>(54) Title:</b> <b>DIAGNOSIS FOR MALIGNANT HYPERTHERMIA</b>  <b>(57) Abstract</b>  <p>A method for isolating a cDNA specific for the human ryanodine receptor is disclosed. The gene is associated with malignant hyperthermia, a hypermetabolic syndrome triggered primarily by inhalation anaesthetics, but also present in animals, such as pigs, as induced by stress. The cDNA can be cloned and expressed in a recombinant plasmid or phage. The cDNA, or fragments thereof, is used as diagnostic probes for individuals or animals at risk for malignant hyperthermia using restriction fragment length polymorphism analysis.</p>		

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**DIAGNOSIS FOR MALIGNANT HYPERTHERMIA****FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

This invention relates to the animal disease malignant hyperthermia (MH) and to the cloning and  
5 characterization of a gene associated with (MH), and to the development of methods for detecting individuals susceptible to MH.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Although malignant hyperthermia is associated  
10 primarily with humans and was first realized as a reaction to inhalation anaesthetics, it is understood that MH is also a very common problem in certain animals, particularly pigs. There is therefore particular commercial interest in developing suitable assays to  
15 determine MH in pigs, as well as providing suitable diagnosis to test humans to avoid life threatening circumstances in the operating room.

Malignant hyperthermia (MH) is an inherited predisposition to a hypermetabolic syndrome (adverse  
20 reaction) triggered by inhalation anaesthetics such as halothane and some skeletal muscle relaxants such as succinylcholine. The primary defect in MH is related to a sustained increase in myoplasmic calcium which causes muscle contracture and increased glycolysis concomitant  
25 with the production of  $H_2O$ ,  $CO_2$  and heat and excessive consumption of  $O_2$ . Other signs of the disorder (including the hyperthermia for which it was named) may be explained as a direct result of muscle contracture and increased glycolysis [Steward, D. J. and O'Connor, G. A. R,  
30 "Malignant Hyperthermia - The Acute Crisis", in Britt B. A. ed. Malignant Hyperthermia, Boston, Martinus Nijhoff, (1987)].

The disease in humans is a serious health problem as the affected individuals are usually unaware of their  
35 condition and problem with a potentially lethal reaction to the drugs administered at surgery. The observed frequency of the disease is dependent on the drugs

administered. The highest estimate based on the use of succinylcholine in combination with halothane, gives a frequency of 1 in 4200 anaesthetics [Ording, H., Anesth Analg. 64: 700-704, (1985)]. This may be a gross  
5 underestimate of the true gene frequency since many individuals who carry the gene are never exposed to the triggering agent and thus remain undiagnosed. Additionally the incidence of masseter muscle spasm following halothane-succinylcholine induction of  
10 anaesthesia is 1 in 200; 50% of these individuals have been subsequently shown to have biopsies positive for MH suggesting that the true incidence of the trait may be considerably higher [Rosenberg, H, and Fletcher, J. E., Anesth. Analg. 65: 161-164, (1986)]. In many families  
15 the disease segregates as an autosomal dominant condition [Kalow, W., "Inheritance of Malignant Hyperthermia - A review of Published Data", in Britt, B. A. Ed. Malignant Hyperthermia, supra, (1987)] although other modes of inheritance have been reported in some families.  
20 The mortality rate for MH in North America has decreased from 84% in the 1960s to about 7% [Britt, B. A., "Preface: A History of Malignant Hyperthermia", in Britt B.A. ed. Malignant Hyperthermia, Boston, Martinus Nijhoff, pp 1 - 10, (1987)], following improvements in  
25 monitoring systems, increased awareness of MH and the advent of dantrolene treatment in 1975. A marked elevation in end-tidal (exhaled) carbon dioxide levels is an early indicator of an MH reaction and, where monitored and recognized, may allow prompt treatment with sodium  
30 dantrolene (dantrium) to avert a full crisis. The fatality rate is still unacceptably high in many countries in the world ( e.g. 24% in the U.K.).

Fatalities may result from one or more of multiple complications in a fulminant MH crisis. Skeletal muscle,  
35 smooth (involuntary) muscle and cardiac muscle are all affected in an MH reaction. Contraction of smooth muscle of the blood vessels causes hypertension which further

decreases the oxygen supply and results in accelerated deep breathing. Pulmonary edema may occur as the crisis progresses especially at the onset of cardiac failure. Cardiac failure is triggered both by rigidity of the heart muscle and by elevated levels of potassium in the blood. Once the temperature of an affected individual has begun to rise it does so rapidly (1°C every five minutes) and final temperatures as high as 46°C have been reported. Leakage of myoglobin into the blood as a result of membrane damage may trigger kidney failure in survivors. Some survivors never regain consciousness and others have central nervous system damage (e.g. paralysis, blindness, deafness, impaired intelligence, speech defects) as a result of extremely high fever and/or electrolyte imbalance [Steward D.J. and O'Connor, G. A. R. supra, (1987)].

Accurate laboratory tests are required which can detect individuals at risk for developing malignant hyperthermia. Currently, the best test for individuals at risk is a diagnostic muscle biopsy. This test, described by Kalow et al. ["Metabolic error of muscle metabolism after recovery from malignant hyperthermia", Lancet, 2: 895-898, (1970)], is based on the abnormal contracture response of MH muscle to caffeine, halothane and a combination of the two. It is a highly invasive procedure, requiring 10-15 grams of thigh muscle. Moreover the tests are time-consuming and sometimes inconclusive. The concordance between tests is poor such that an individual may be labelled "at risk" by the criteria of one test and "not at risk" by the criteria of a second. Other individuals may be equivocal due to overlap in the values for "at risk" and "not at risk" groups. Control values and diagnostic "cut-off" points have to be established in each laboratory so that it is difficult to establish new units to test for MH susceptibility. Moreover, such an invasive technique is inappropriate for general population screening prior to

anaesthesia. Thus, the availability of a DNA based diagnostic test is of major significance and utility for detection of individuals at risk for malignant hyperthermia.

5 Porcine halothane sensitivity represents an excellent animal model for malignant hyperthermia. The clinical crisis in pigs follows a very similar course to that in humans and crises may be similarly arrested or averted by prompt treatment with dantrolene sodium. In  
10 pigs, however, the syndrome may additionally be triggered by over-exercise and/or stress. Usually over-exercise is not a significant problem in the raising of pigs. However, stress is a problem as particularly experienced during shipping and prior to slaughter. The pig industry  
15 losses hundreds of thousands of dollars a year due to deaths or spoiled meat caused by pigs being susceptible to malignant hyperthermia.

While it has been described as a recessive condition in pigs, it is more likely to be a co-dominant condition  
20 since muscle biopsy studies [Britt, B. A., et al, "Malignant Hyperthermia - pattern of inheritance in Swine". In Aldrete J. A. eds., Second International Symposium on Malignant Hyperthermia. New York, Grune and Stratton, pp 195-211, (1978)] reveal that heterozygous  
25 pigs may be mildly affected and homozygous MH/MH pigs may be more seriously affected.

The gene responsible for halothane sensitivity (HAL) has been found to segregate in pigs with a number of other genetic markers including S (S Locus affecting  
30 expression of A-O red blood antigens), Phi (glucose phosphate isomerase), H (H locus encoding blood group antigens), Po2 (postalbumin-2) and PgD (6-phospho-gluconate dehydrogenase), [Archibald, A. L. and Imlah, P., Animal Blood Groups and Biochem. Genet.  
35 16: 253-263, (1985)]. It is therefore assumed that these genes are linked on one pig chromosome. Since genetic linkage groups are often conserved throughout the animal

kingdom and since the human equivalents of three of these genetic markers (Phi, Po2 and H) have been found to map to human chromosome 19 [Shaw, D. and Eiberg, H., Report of the Committee for chromosomes 17, 18, and 19. Human Gene Mapping 9 (1987); Ninth International Workshop on Human Gene Mapping. Cytogenet. Cell Genet. vol 46, Nos. 1 - 4, (1987)], there was reason to suggest that the human gene for MH may also be in this gene cluster on chromosome 19. A possible further localization of MH to the long arm (q) of chromosome 19 was suggested by the fact that the H gene analog maps to 19q and the Phi gene analog (GPI) maps to band 19q12-19q13 on 19q (Shaw and Eiberg, supra).

In recent years it has been possible to track genetic disease genes in families using closely linked genetic markers. The most commonly used marker of a chromosome site is a restriction enzyme cleavage site that may be present (+) on the pair of chromosomes in some members of the population or absent (-) at the same site in the chromosome pair of other members of the population. Still other individuals will be heterozygous (+/-) having one chromosome of each type [Botstein, E. et al, Am. J. Hum. Genet. 32: 314-331, (1980)]. The (+) chromosome can be distinguished from the (-) chromosome by extracting DNA from the blood cells (or other cells) of the test individual, treating it with the restriction enzyme whose cleavage site is "polymorphic" (i.e. cleaves or doesn't cleave) and fractionating the DNA fragments by size. The DNA from a chromosome without the cleavage site gives a larger fragment than the DNA from a chromosome with the cleavage site, providing an assay for the presence or absence of the cleavage site. The term RFLP is an acronym for restriction fragment length polymorphism. An RFLP constitutes a genetic marker allowing the polymorphic chromosome site to be tracked in a family. Any genetic disease that tracks (segregates) in a family with the RFLP marker is considered to be

linked to the marker, that is it maps near to the marker on the chromosome which they share.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to an aspect of the invention,  
5 substantially purified DNA sequence encoding for human ryanodine receptor and its functional equivalents is characterized by:

- 10 i) the DNA encoding for a protein having 5032 amino acids and a molecular weight of approximately 563,000 daltons;
- ii) the DNA having a length of approximately 15.3 kb; and
- iii) isolated from chromosome 19 of humans.

According to another aspect of the process,  
15 substantially purified cDNA has the sequence encoding for the amino acid positions 1 to 5032 of Figure 2.

According to another aspect of the invention, a DNA probe includes a fragment of the DNA encoding for the human ryanodine receptor protein.

20 According to a further aspect of the invention, the use of the DNA probe in RFLP analysis determines if a subject is susceptible to malignant hyperthermia.

According to another aspect of the invention, substantially purified ryanodine receptor protein is free  
25 of any foreign human protein. The protein has a molecular weight of approximately 563,000 daltons and an amino acid sequence of Figure 2.

According to another aspect of the invention, substantially purified antibodies specific to a protein  
30 fragment of the human ryanodine receptor protein is disclosed. The antibodies may be either polyclonal antibodies or monoclonal antibodies. Such antibodies may be used in an amino acid assay to determine if a human or animal is susceptible to malignant hyperthermia.

#### 35 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Preferred embodiments of the invention are discussed with respect to the drawings, wherein;



Figure 1 is a schematic drawing showing the restriction endonuclease map and sequencing strategy of the human ryanodine receptor (HRR).

Figure 2 is the nucleotide sequence (upper row) and deduced amino acid sequence (lower row) of the human ryanodine receptor cDNA. Sequences underlined once correspond to peptide sequences determined from the purified receptor protein. Sequences underlined twice are potential phosphorylation sites.

Figure 3 is a Southern blot hybridization using human-rodent somatic cell hybrids to localize the HRR gene to human chromosome 19.

Figure 4 is a Southern blot hybridization using somatic cell hybrids derived from chromosome 19 reciprocal translocation, to further localize the ryanodine receptor gene on human chromosome 19.

Figure 5 is a Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP) analysis of two representative malignant hyperthermia families.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The sustained muscle contraction in MH suggests that the problem in this disease may be related to the release of calcium into the muscle cell cytoplasm from the sarcoplasmic reticulum (SR). The calcium release channel in muscle is a large protein that spans the gap between a membranous structure called the transverse tubule and the SR. Recently evidence has been accumulated to show that this protein is equivalent to the "ryanodine receptor" protein and researchers have speculated that a defect in the channel might be the basic defect in animals, including humans, with MH.

This invention shows that the ryanodine receptor gene is the gene that is defective in MH. This application discloses isolation of the gene that encodes the human ryanodine receptor protein, mapping of the human ryanodine receptor (HRR) gene to human chromosome 19, further mapping the MH gene to the long arm of

chromosome 19 and determination that RFLP markers within the HRR gene segregate 100% of the time with the MH phenotype. The HRR gene is believed to be the gene responsible for MH and DNA probes from the HRR gene constitute the basis for a definitive diagnostic test for MH.

The primary defect in MH is believed to be in calcium regulation. Myoplasmic calcium rises rapidly during onset of MH in MH susceptible pigs, and this is rapidly reversed by administration of dantrolene [Lopez, J. R., Allen, P., Alamo, L., Jones D., and Sreter F. Muscle Nerve, 11, 82-88, (1988)]. While the calcium-ATPase protein (Calcium pump) appears to function normally in both human and pig MH muscle, several studies indicated a defect in the calcium induced calcium release channel.

The resting level of calcium is elevated in the myoplasm of MH muscle while other reports indicate that calcium induced calcium release is activated at a lower calcium threshold in heavy SR isolated from MH pigs than in heavy SR isolated from normal pigs and that this threshold is further lowered in the presence of halothane. Ohta, T, Endo, M, Nakano, T., Morohoshi, Y, Wanikawa K, Ohga, A, American Physiological Society C358-367, (1989) reported that muscle from MH sensitive (MHS) pigs has a significantly higher rate of calcium induced calcium release than normal. Mickelson et al (J. Biol. Chem. 264: 1715-1722, 1988) also showed an increased rate of calcium induced calcium release in MHS muscle.

The calcium release channel in muscle is a large protein that spans the gap between the transverse tubule and the SR. The channel is activated by calcium, caffeine, halothane, and micro-molar ryanodine, and inhibited by ruthenium red, tetracaine, calmodulin, high  $Mg^{2+}$  and mM ryanodine [Lai F. A. et al, Nature, 331: 315-319, (1988)]. The resting level of calcium is elevated in the myoplasm of MH muscle (Lopez et al, supra), and

calcium-induced calcium release is activated at a low r  
calcium threshold in MH pigs than in normal pigs. This  
threshold is further lowered in the presence of halothane  
(Nelson, 1988). Ohta et al supra, and Mickelson et al.  
5 supra, both reported an increased rate of calcium induced  
calcium release in MHS muscle. The latter study  
indicated that the ryanodine receptor from MHS muscle has  
a higher affinity for ryanodine binding and requires  
higher concentrations of calcium to inhibit ryanodine  
10 binding.

Ryanodine causes contracture of skeletal muscle in  
vitro in both pig and human, similar to that induced by  
caffeine and/or halothane and reportedly discriminates  
more effectively between MH and normal muscle.

15 The rabbit ryanodine receptor has recently been  
cloned [Takeshima, H. et al., Nature, 339: 439-445,  
(1989)] independently of the work disclosed herein. The  
deduced amino acid sequence comprises 5037 amino acids.  
The predicted protein structure suggests that the calcium  
20 release channel, comprising four transmembrane domains  
and potential regulatory sequences, lies in the C-  
terminal portion of the molecule. The remainder of the  
protein is predicted to constitute the "foot" portion  
which spans the gap between the transverse tubule and the  
25 SR.

The C-terminal fifth of the predicted structure of  
the human ryanodine receptor contains from four to ten  
transmembrane segments which form the channel itself.  
Potential binding sites for calcium, calmodulin, ATP and  
30 other modulators of calcium channel function are also  
believed to be present in the molecule. Two of these  
transmembrane regions show limited homology to  
transmembrane regions of the nicotinic acetylcholine  
receptor (nAChR). Specific amino acid substitutions  
35 which alter the charge distribution in the Torpedo nAChR  
have been shown to alter channel conductance [Imota, K.  
et al Nature, 335: 645-648, (1988)]. By analogy, amino

acid substitutions in the homologous transmembrane segments of the human ryanodine receptor could alter rates of calcium release and account for the MH phenotype.

5       The initial rabbit cDNA clones were obtained by screening a  $\lambda$ gt11 expression cDNA library with affinity purified polyclonal antibody directed against epitopes on the purified rabbit ryanodine receptor protein as described in [Zorzato, F., et al, Biochem. J. 261: 863-  
10 870, (1989)]. The protein sequence is published in Takeshima et al (supra) and hence readily available to the public. Two initial rabbit cDNA clones were isolated from this library. Restriction endonuclease fragments from these clones were then used as probes to isolate  
15 longer cDNA clones from a neonatal rabbit skeletal muscle cDNA library. This library is freely available and is described in MacLennan, D. H., et al, Nature 316: 696-700 (1985). All the libraries used in this application are freely available. It is understood by those skilled in  
20 the art, however, that any library prepared from skeletal muscle according to established methods should be representative of the RNA species present in the tissue, and can therefore potentially be the source of a ryanodine receptor clone.

25       Further extension of the clones was achieved by the use of a primer extension library using neonatal rabbit muscle poly A+ RNA.

      The rabbit ryanodine receptor cDNA probes were used to isolate the HRR cDNA on the basis of cross-species  
30 conservation. A series of six linear clones were isolated from a human skeletal muscle cDNA library in  $\lambda$ gt10. These clones are presented in Figure 1, labelled as cDNA 1 through 6. cDNA clone 7 in Figure 1 was isolated from a primer extension library constructed from  
35 human skeletal muscle mRNA.

      Genomic DNA spanning the non-overlapping cDNA fragments shown in Figure 1 was isolated from a

chr m s me 19 specific library, designati n Lawrence Livermor LL19NL01 Human Chr mosome 19 Library in Charon 4A by the American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, MD.

5        Figure 1 presents the restriction map and sequencing strategy for the human ryanodine receptor cDNA. The first line shows the size in kb of the full length cDNA. The second shows a partial restriction endonuclease map of the 15.3 kb cDNA which encodes the human ryanodine  
10 receptor protein. The third and fourth lines define the 6 cDNA clones (1-6) that were isolated from the first cDNA library and the single clone (7) that was isolated from a primer extended human cDNA library. Arrows inside  
15 the clones indicate that they were all sequenced in two directions. The fifth line designates the regions where genomic DNAs were sequenced to obtain overlapping sequences between the various clones. HRR probes 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 described in this application, correspond to cDNA clones 1,3,4,5,6 and 7, respectively.

20        Figure 2 presents the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequences of the cDNA encoding the human ryanodine receptor. The nucleotide are numbered positively beginning at the first residue of the initiator methionine codon. The nucleotide comprising the 5' non  
25 translated region are numbered negatively in the 3' to 5' orientation. The deduced amino acid sequence of the open reading frame is numbered from 1 to 5032. Peptide sequences determined from the purified receptor are underlined once. The potential phosphorylation sites are  
30 underlined twice. The 3' untranslated region, beginning after the TGA termination codon, is 142 bp long. A canonical AAAATAAA polyadenylation signal [Proudfoot, N. J. and Brownlee, G. G., Nature 263: 211-214, (1976)] is found 19 bases upstream of the polyadenylation site and  
35 this is followed closely by the TG-rich sequence TCTGTCGTACG, characteristic of sequences betw n the polyadenylation signal and the polyadenylation site

[McLauchlan, J. et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 13: 1347-1368, (1985)]. The initiator methionine is 15096 bp upstream of the termination codon. The initiator methionine codon is present in the longer sequence ACATCATGG which closely resembles the consensus initiation sequence, CCA(G)CCATGG [Kozak, M, Nature 308: 241-246, (1984)]. The human cDNA sequence of Figure 2 encodes a protein of 5032 amino acids with a predicted molecular weight of 563,584. It is understood that the term substantially pure as used herein means that the isolated and purified DNA or protein is free of any foreign animal DNA or protein. It is also understood that, with reference to disclosed and claimed DNA or protein sequences, various functional equivalents exist which are due to substitutions in variable regions of the DNA sequence or protein which does not affect the essential function of the DNA sequence or protein sequence.

Proof that the cDNA coded for the ryanodine receptor gene was provided by several lines of evidence. The fusion protein expressed by the clones reacted with a second antibody raised against the purified 30S ryanodine receptor [Meissner, G. Rousseau, E. and Lai, F. A. J. Biol. Chem. 264: 1715-1722, (1989)]. As further evidence, both rabbit and human probes from the coding region of the cDNA hybridized to a message of approximately 15 kb in rabbit muscle mRNA. Tryptic peptides prepared from the rabbit ryanodine receptor were sequenced. The primer extension and DNA sequence analysis of the cDNA clones revealed four deduced amino acid sequences corresponding to the sequences of the tryptic peptides derived from the purified ryanodine receptor protein. These sequences are underlined in Figure 2. Further evidence that the clones encoded the ryanodine receptor is provided by noting that the deduced amino acid sequence would give rise to a protein with several transmembrane passages only in the carboxyl-terminal fifth of the molecule and that the bulk

of the protein was hydrophilic. Such a predicted protein would match very well with the structure of the ryanodine receptor in which the bulk of the protein is cytoplasmic and only a small segment is transmembrane [Wagenknecht, T. et al., Nature 338: 167-170, (1989)].

Localization of the ryanodine receptor gene on human chromosome 19 was determined using a panel of human-rodent somatic cell hybrids [MacLennan, D. H. et al., Somat. Cell and Mol. Genet. 13: 341-346, (1987)].

Figure 3 shows filter hybridization analysis of the human ryanodine receptor gene. DNAs are from human (lane 1), mouse (lane 2) and mouse-human hybrids (lanes 3 and 4) (MacLennan et al supra). DNAs were digested with EcoR1 and Southern blot analysis was performed with the probe pHRR-XH-1, a 1001 bp Xho1 - Hind III fragment from the human ryanodine receptor cDNA, consisting of bases 8550 to 9550 in the human cDNA sequence (Figure 2). The hybrid in lane 3 contained human chromosome 19; the hybrid in lane 4 did not. The presence or absence of chromosome 19 in the 13 somatic cell hybrids used in this study was confirmed both cytogenetically and with DNA probes from chromosome 19. The 15 kb EcoR1 band in human genomic DNA hybridizes to the probe pHRR-XH-1. Cross hybridization to mouse bands at 2.4, 2.1 and 0.5 kb was also observed. Analysis of a series of 13 somatic cell hybrids revealed 100% concordance for the presence of chromosome 19 and the presence of a 15 kb EcoR1 restriction fragment which hybridized to the human ryanodine receptor probe pHRR-XH-1 as shown in Figure 3.

As shown in Table 1, for all other chromosomes, including X and Y chromosomes, discordance ranged from 23% to 77%.

TABLE 1

Chromosome Mapping of Human Ryanodine Receptor Gene

	<u>Chromosome No.</u>	<u>Discordant</u>	<u>Discordancy (%)</u>
	1	3	23
5	2	4	31
	3	6	46
	4	9	69
	5	8	62
	6	5	38
10	7	5	42
	8	5	38
	9	5	38
	10	5	38
	11	5	38
15	12	5	38
	13	9	69
	14	6	46
	15	6	46
	16	4	31
20	17	7	54
	18	5	38
	19	0	0
25	20	7	54
	21	6	46
	22	10	77
	X	7	54
	Y	6	46

30

Chromosome 19 regional sublocalization of the gene identified by the probe pHRR-XH-1 was accomplished using a panel of somatic cell hybrids that were derived from a variety of reciprocal translocations involving human

35 chromosome 19. The construction and analysis of these hybrids have been described by Brook, I. D. et al., Hum. Genet. 68: 282-285, (1984), Bufton, L. et al., Am. J. Hum. Genet. 38: 447-460, (1986), Korneluk, R. G. et al.,



Genomics in press, (1989); Lusis A. J. et al., Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 83: 3929-3933, (1986); Mohandas T. et al., Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 77: 6759-6763, (1980). Figure 4 shows genomic DNA extracted from hybrid and control cells, digested to completion with Eco R1 and separated by electrophoresis for subsequent Southern blot analysis. The autoradiograph depicts the hybridization pattern of the probe pHRR-XH-1 to DNA extracted from (1) Mouse A9 control; (2) Hamster E36 control; (3) G24A9 (retains 19p13-->19qter); (4) G24B2TG (back selected for the loss of 19p13 -->19qter); (5) G35E4 (contains 19 pter --> 19q13.3); (6) B-9 (has 19q13.2 --> 19qter); (7) GM89A99C7B (retains 19q13.3 --> 19qter); (8) CF104-19/6 (has 19 cen --> qter); (9) G89E5 (contains a normal human X chromosome only); (10) normal human male; (11) normal human female. The EcoR1 fragment from human chromosome 19 which hybridizes with probe pHRR-XH-1 is approximately 15 kb in size. Cross-hybridization of the probe pHRR-XH-1 to hamster DNA sequences is seen at 6.0 kb and to mouse EcoR1 fragments at 2.4 and 2.1 kb. Figure 4 illustrates that the HRR probe hybridizes to genomic digests of human DNA from hybrids that retain the proximal 19q region; p13 --> qter (lane 3), pter --> q13.3 (lane 5) and cen --> qter (lane 8). By contrast, hybrids that contain the distal 19q regions q13.2 --> qter (lane 6) and q13.3 --> qter (lane 7) did not show binding to the probe pHRR-XH-1. These results sublocalize the HRR probe to the proximal 19q region in the interval cen --> q13.2.

To demonstrate that the HRR gene is the gene that, when mutated, is the cause of MH, RFLP markers that are part of the HRR gene have been found to segregate with the MH gene (and therefore the MH phenotype) in families. To show this, blood samples from members of several MH families were obtained and subjected to RFLP analysis. The RFLPs examined included several previously reported genetic markers that had been mapped to chromosome 19.

More importantly several new RFLPs are described that are recognized by cDNA probes from the HRR gene, then by establishing the means to test the HRR gene directly for co-segregation with the MH phenotype.

- 5 RFLPs in the HRR gene were identified by using various cDNA clones from the HRR gene as probes to detect hybridizing sequences on Southern blots of DNA from a set of normal individuals. Samples of the test DNA were cleaved with each of several restriction enzymes, the
- 10 fragments were size fractionated by electrophoresis in agarose gels and blotted to a nylon membrane. Denatured DNA on the membrane was hybridized by standard procedures with <sup>32</sup>P labelled HRR cDNA probes, and the position of hybridizing sequences was determined by standard
- 15 autoradiographic procedures. Any probe / enzyme combination that revealed a variation in fragment size among the tested individuals defined a new RFLP.

In total, eleven RFLPs were defined in the HRR gene. Their properties are summarized in Table 2. For each

20 RFLP found the HRR cDNA probe is listed in column 1, the restriction enzyme with the polymorphic site is listed in column 2, the variable fragment sizes (alleles) are provided in column 3, constant size fragments in column 4, and the frequencies of the alleles are provided in

25 column 5.

TABLE 2  
Human Ryanodine Receptor Probe Information

Probe	Polymorphic Enzyme	Polymorphic Enzyme	Polymorphic Fragment Sizes (Alleles)	Constant Bands	Allele Frequencies
HRR1-600	Ban I		6.0/13/0		.22/.78
HRR3-1000	Hind III		19.0/22.		.04/.96
	Pvu II*		6.5/4.4/1.9		.25/.75
	Bam HI*		19.0/14.0,5.0		.75/.25
HRR3-1200	Pvu II		1.9,3.9/5.8		.11/.89
HRR4-2400	Taq I		1.8/1.1,0.7	3.5	.20/.80
	Bcl I		11.5/8.4,2.9	4.6,3.0	.78/.22
	EcoRV		28.0/2.5	11.0	
HRR5-3800	Eco RI		24.0/16.0,9.0		.14/.86
	Taq I		1.9/1.6,0.3		
	Msp I		1.8/2.2		

\*Pvu and Bam HI polymorphisms are in total linkage disequilibrium with each other, and were treated as a single genetic marker.

These probes can be defined more particularly by reference to the nucleotide sequence of Figure 2. HRR 1-1600 is an approximately 1.6 kb fragment spanning nucleotides 13602 to 15243 shown in Figure 2. HRR 2-2000 is an approximately 2 kb fragment spanning nucleotides 11613 to 13607 in Figure 2. HRR 3-3100 is an approximately 3.1 kb fragment spanning nucleotides 8515 - 11618 shown in Figure 2. HRR 3-1000 is a subfragment of HRR 3-3100, of approximately 1 kb, spanning nucleotides 8515 - 9554 shown in Figure 2. HRR 3-1200 is also a subfragment of HRR 3-3100, of approximately 1.2 kb, spanning nucleotides 9549 - 10851 shown in Figure 2. HRR 4-2400 is an approximately 2.4 kb fragment spanning nucleotides 6125 - 8493 shown in Figure 2. HRR 5-3800 is an approximately 3.8 kb fragment spanning nucleotides 2391 - 6125 shown in Figure 2. In addition, HRR 7A (nucleotides 186 - 2396) and 7B (nucleotides -104 - 548) have been tested, but have not revealed any RFLP markers with the restriction enzymes tested.

With this set of HRR gene markers, it was possible to test for segregation of the markers with the MH phenotype in MH families. Families selected for study had been under investigation for many years at the Toronto General Hospital. Families chosen were those with a potential for at least two informative offspring, (ie. ones in which the MH gene has been inherited from an affected parent who is heterozygous for both the MH gene [one normal and one mutant allele] and the genetic marker at the HRR gene [one allele of each type]). Family members were classified as affected if they had either an MH reaction or muscle biopsy results which were unequivocally affected. In some cases the status of the second parent had to be inferred as only one parent had been biopsied. Muscle biopsies were performed according to the North American Malignant Hyperthermia protocol (Britt, 1988) as described below. Biopsy test results were considered to be unequivocal if at least two

parameters were consistent, not being intermediate and/or ambiguous.

Three muscle biopsy drug tests were performed on separate muscle strips - halothane, caffeine, and  
5 caffeine plus halothane. These tests are all based on the different contracture responsiveness of normal and Malignant Hyperthermia affected muscle (Table 3).

TABLE 3

Muscle Biopsy Test Criteria (age > 10 years)

10		<u>Normal</u>	<u>Affected</u>
	Halothane 1%	< 0.2 g	> 0.3 g
	3%	< 0.7 g	> 0.8 g
	Caffeine	> 4.0 mM	< 4.0 mM
	Caff. + Hal.	> 0.5 mM	< 0.35 mM
15	<hr/>		
	Caffeine - added cumulatively (1,2,4,8,16,32 mM)		
	measure contracture - baseline to plateau		
	Caff + Hal. - caffeine added cumulatively (0.25,0.5,1,2,4,8,16,32) after 10 min in 1% halothane		

20

Muscle biopsies were taken from affected individuals and their first degree relatives with a requirement for a lean body mass of 20 kilograms. At least two to three months was left between an MH reaction and the diagnostic  
25 biopsy. Surgery was performed using nitrous oxide, Innovar and midazolam. No dantrolene was administered prior to surgery as this can alter test results. The muscles chosen for biopsy were the vastus lateralis, rectus abdominis, or gracilis. These three muscles all  
30 react similarly in the caffeine halothane contracture test.

Good twitch viability in each specimen was demonstrated prior to testing. A 20 minute period was allowed in order to establish stable twitch heights and  
35 baselines prior to addition of drugs. 1% halothane contracture tests were performed on all individuals. 3% halothane testing was done on some individuals. In each

case exposure time was 10 minutes. The amplitude of the contractures was measured and a contracture of greater than 0.3 g at 1% and 0.7 g at 3% was defined as abnormal. For the caffeine test, caffeine is added incrementally at 4 minute intervals from 0.5 mM doubling to 32 mM. Contractures in response to each dose were measured four minutes after each addition of drug. The dose of caffeine required to raise the resting tension by 1 g (Caffeine Specific Concentration) was calculated. Values greater than 4mM were considered normal. In the caffeine plus halothane test, muscle strips were equilibrated for 15 minutes with 1% halothane. Caffeine was then added incrementally from 0.25 mM doubling to 32 mM and the Caffeine Specific Concentration in the presence of Halothane was calculated similarly. Values greater than 0.5 mM were considered to be normal. Individuals with values less than 0.35 mM were considered to be affected. Table 3 lists the test criteria that were used to determine whether a result was positive or negative. In general the caffeine plus halothane test was taken as the most definitive and in most instances the caffeine test was in agreement with this. The halothane test (with 1% halothane) tended to give false negatives and it was ignored if the two other tests were positive. To avoid possible confusion, families with discrepant results or families that did not fit the standard criteria for autosomal dominant inheritance were not used for RFLP analysis. On this basis 19 families were chosen for study.

Two examples of typical families are presented in Figures 5a and 5b. In Figure 5a, data are presented for family 5. The mother has had a reaction (R) and also scores positive for the caffeine plus halothane test (K). Her husband is presumed to be normal. Three children are affected according to the biopsy results. Segregation was examined for three HRR gene RFLPs, two of them recognized by HRR3 and one by HRR4. There is one

constant band (C). The three pairs of polymorphic fragments are 22 and 19 kb (HRR3 with HindIII - table 1), 11.5 and 8.4 kb (HRR4 with BclI - a 2.9 kb fragment that goes with the 8.4 kb fragment is not shown - table 1) and 6.5 and 4.4 kb (HRR3 with PvuII - a 1.9 kb fragment that goes with the 4.4 kb fragment is not shown - table 1). For each of the RFLP markers the father is homozygous for one allele and the mother is heterozygous for the two alleles. In the case of the first RFLP, for example, the father has 22/22 and the mother has 22/19. All three affected children received the 22 kb marker from both parents. Thus all three received the 22 kb allele from mother along with the MH gene they also received from her. While this could occur by chance it is consistent with the MH gene and the HRR gene segregating together due to close linkage or identity of the two genes. The same reasoning applies to the other two RFLPs that were informative in this family.

Figure 5b shows Family 12, in which the father and two offspring are affected. Two RFLPs were examined, one with a constant size fragment (C) and alleles of 6.5 and 4.4 kb (as in Figure 5a) and one detected with a probe from the ApoCII gene (Shaw and Eiberg, supra) that maps close to the HRR gene on chromosome 19. The latter detects alleles of 3.8 and 3.5 kb. For the HRR3 RFLP father is heterozygous 6.5/4.4 and mother is homozygous 4.4/4.4. All four offspring must have received a 4.4 kb allele from mother. The two normal girls received 4.4 from father while the two affected individuals received the 6.5 kb allele from him. This could have occurred by chance but it is also consistent with the 6.5 kb allele segregating with the mutant MH gene on one chromosome 19 and the 4.4 kb allele segregating with the normal MH gene on the other chromosome 19. A similar result is obtained for the ApoCII genetic marker with the two normal girls receiving the opposite ApoCII alleles from their affected siblings. This is consistent with linkage of the ApoCII

g n with the MH gene but could also b a chance occurrence.

These two representative families illustrate that the genetic test for linkage of chromosome markers with the MH gene is a statistical one. In any family the segregation pattern could always occur by chance or by co-segregation of the two markers with the disease due to true genetic linkage. To demonstrate that linkage is more likely than chance occurrence requires that several families be examined and that a statistical analysis be performed. Table 4 summarizes the data from 19 families examined. Eight families gave informative results with one or more of the HRR gene probes, with results obtained on 19 offspring of affected parents. In every family the affected children all received the same HRR marker and the unaffected ones all received the alternate form. The probability of this occurring by chance is small. Standard linkage analysis was performed to determine the odds of this result being due to linkage rather than chance. The results are as shown in Table 4.



TABLE 4

MH GENE AND HRR GENE LINKAGE

	<u>Linkage Dist. (CM)</u>	<u>LOD Score</u>
	0.00	3.31
5	0.01	3.22
	0.02	3.15
	0.05	2.91
	0.10	2.51
	0.20	1.71
10	0.40	0.30

The tabulated values are the log of the odds (to base 10) otherwise known as the LOD score. Performing this calculation for different possible presumed distances between the HRR gene and the MH gene demonstrates that the highest odds are attained at a presumed distance of zero. This suggests that the most likely interpretation is that the two genes are the same. Since three is the log of 1000, a LOD score of greater than three indicates that the odds in favor of linkage versus chance are greater than 1000 to 1. It is reasonable to conclude that the HRR gene is in fact the gene that, when mutated, is the cause of MH. This conclusion is strengthened by the fact that among eight additional families who are not informative for the HRR gene probes, but were informative for genetic markers that flank the HRR gene on chromosome 19, only three recombination events were detected between the MH gene and the flanking marker. This also provides definitive evidence that the MH gene maps to the same region of the chromosome as the HRR gene.

RFLP markers detected by HRR cDNA clones segregated 100% of the time with the MH phenotype in families informative with these probes. Given that all the relevant family members are available for DNA testing, it can be possible to determine the MH status of family members who have not had an MH reaction or a muscle

biopsy. Both the affected individual and his or her parents or siblings whose MH status is known must be available. For example, if a parent and child are affected, determining the status of the other children in the family would be possible if both parents and the affected child are available for DNA testing. In another example, it is possible to diagnose the first offspring in a family where both a parent and grandparent are known to be affected. In this case, it would be necessary to have both parents and grandparents as well as the child to study. At present the test requires that one of the eleven markers previously defined be informative in a family for the diagnosis to be made. Eight of the nineteen families used to establish the LOD score fit these criteria.

Markers which flank the HRR gene may also be used to track the disease but the risk of a recombination event (which uncouples the markers from the disease phenotype) will increase with distance from the MH gene and result in the misdiagnosis rate of a few percent. New markers can be developed by screening genomic clones detected by the HRR cDNA for multiple copies of dinucleotide repeats. Such markers are analysed by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and have multiple alleles in the population [Weber, J. L. and May, P. E. Am. J. Hum. Genet. 44: 338-396, (1989)]. These can provide intragenic probes informative in a greater proportion of families and thus avoid the need for flanking markers with their associated risk of recombination with the disease phenotype.

Analysis of current linkage data does not indicate the existence of a common haplotype(s) associated with human MH which indicates that multiple mutations of the MH gene may be found. In order to develop a test for general population screening, it will be necessary to find and characterize each mutation.

Knowledge of the normal HRR cDNA sequence disclosed herein allows amplification of segment cDNA copies of the normal and mutated genes using the polymerase chain reaction. Mutations will be apparent as sequence  
5 discrepancies (with respect to the cloned DNA sequence) in the heterozygous state (for direct sequencing) or in the hemizygous state (for cloned sequence). By using cDNA, RNA processing mutations will be detected in addition to base substitutions, deletions, duplications,  
10 or insertions.

Once a mutation is defined, oligonucleotides, derived from the normal sequence may be synthesized which flank the mutation and can be used to amplify both normal and mutant alleles. Short oligonucleotides containing  
15 either the mutated region of the HRR gene or the corresponding normal site of the HRR gene should then be synthesized and used as probes, in turn, to test blots of amplified DNA containing the region of interest. The mutant sequence oligonucleotide should hybridize only to  
20 DNA from affected individuals, whereas the normal sequence oligonucleotide should hybridize to DNA from both affected and unaffected individuals. It should also be possible to design an allele specific oligonucleotide based on the sequence of a mutation(s), which in  
25 conjunction with a normal HRR sequence oligonucleotide will, in a PCR reaction, generate product only in affected individuals.

To confirm that potential discrepancies represent a mutation, rather than a polymorphism, each such  
30 sequencing discrepancy must be examined in both normal and affected individuals by means of restriction enzyme analysis (if the mutation creates or destroys a site), by allele specific amplification, by differential oligonucleotide hybridization, chemical cleavage [Cotton  
35 et al, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U. S. A., 85: 4397-4401, (1985)], denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis [Myers and Maniatis, Cold Spring Harbour Symp. Quant. Biol. 51:

275-284, (1986)], RNAs protecti n [Myers, R. M., Larin, J., and T. Maniatis, Science 230: 1242, (1985)], or by DNA sequencing, as appropriate. A discrepancy which would alter the amino acid constitution of the HRR protein and which occurs in several affected individuals, but never in normals, would almost certainly represent a mutation. Alternative explanations such as segregation of a polymorphic marker closely linked to the mutation are unlikely, given that common MH haplotypes have not been observed. Once mutations are confirmed, further diagnostic tests may be developed.

DNA sequencing of genomic clones can be performed to determine intron-exon boundaries for the HRR gene. As these are established, it becomes possible to amplify from DNA rather than cDNA, enabling investigation on patients for whom muscle biopsy samples are not available and to expand the study to include additional patients as each mutation is defined. Such an application would also allow one to detect mutations in introns or at intron/exon borders that affect splicing of the message and lead to aberrant protein which would only be inferred from a cDNA based analysis.

The ease of developing a general diagnostic test for MH is dependent on the number of mutations in the gene that cause the MH phenotype. As each mutation is traced a test may be developed which may be informative in all individuals in the family in which it was found and for others which share the mutation. Common mutations may be screened for amongst patients presenting for diagnostic biopsy and once a mutation or mutations comprising a cost and time effective proportion of MH individuals are described, a general population test can be developed.

The type of genetic analysis using RFLPs in humans herein described can also be applied to pigs. Cross species hybridization allows the direct detection of pig RFLPs with the human cDNA. RFLP's detected by the porcine GPI cDNA and GPI gene, closely linked to Hal (MH)

have been successfully used in this type of analysis  
[Davis, W. et al. Animal Genetics 19: 203-212, (1989)].

Hal has been shown to be the gene responsible for  
both porcine stress syndrome (PSS) and pale, soft  
5 exudative pork (PSEP) which result in unfavorable meat  
quality due to myolactosis in the immediate one to two  
hours post-slaughter. This represents a considerable  
economic problem in North America and Europe, with  
estimated annual losses of 300 million dollars in the  
10 United States alone [Harrison, G. G., "Porcine Malignant  
Hyperthermia, the Saga of the Hot Pig", in Britt, B. A.,  
Ed. Malignant Hyperthermia, Boston, Martinus Nijhoff,  
103-136, (1987)]. A DNA diagnostic test would provide a  
cheap and reliable means of determining MH status  
15 particularly in breeding programs and should assist in  
the design of breeding programs which aim to lose the Hal  
trait while maintaining beneficial characteristics. The  
RFLP analysis in pigs would be able to eliminate the Hal  
gene from several strains resulting in considerable  
20 saving in the industry.

The human cDNA clones as disclosed herein may be  
used to isolate pig cDNA clones from both homozygous  
normal and homozygous affected pigs. The sequence of the  
two genes can then be compared to determine the mutation  
25 in each strain. Once these are identified,, tests  
similar to those outlined above can be developed to test  
the authenticity of and/or diagnose the porcine  
mutations. Knowledge of these mutations will allow for  
the identification of affected and heterozygous pigs  
30 without resorting to RFLP analysis and will extend the  
utility of the detection method to include the  
identification of affected pigs in herds in which the  
gene frequency is rare.

It is also feasible to develop polyclonal or  
35 monoclonal antibodies against specific peptide sequences  
that can be used to detect differences in normal and  
mutant ryanodine receptor proteins. It is likely that MH

individuals (either human or porcine) have a section of the protein sequence either missing or altered. It is possible to use a specific segment of peptide sequence to make fusion protein antigens and or synthetic peptide antigens and raise antibodies to the specific segment. Thus, antibodies raised to the altered sequence (Mutant MH) should show positive immunostaining on muscle sections in human MH individuals, MH pigs, and heterozygous pigs, as they will react with antigen in the muscle. No staining should be observed in normal human or porcine individuals. Heterozygous pigs should be distinguishable from homozygous affected pigs by the use of antibody raised to the normal peptide. Similarly, these reactions could be observed with the more sensitive technique of Western blotting of extracts of muscle protein.

The DNA sequence disclosed herein can be manipulated in order to achieve expression and production of large quantities of the protein for functional analysis and antibody production. Partial or full length cDNA sequences, which encode for HRR may be ligated to bacterial expression vectors (for example, pRIT, pGEX, or pATH). The DNA can also be transferred from its existing context to other cloning vehicles, such as other plasmids, bacteriophages, cosmids, animal virus, yeast artificial chromosomes, somatic cells, and other simple or complex organisms, such as bacteria, fungi, invertebrates, or plants. The cDNA sequence (or portions thereof) or a mini gene can be introduced into eukaryotic expression vectors by standard techniques. The expression vectors can also be introduced into recipient cells by conventional techniques, including transfection, calcium or strontium phosphate precipitation, electroporation, microinjection, protoplast fusion, or virus vectors.

Antibodies to various epitopes of the HRR protein can be raised to provide extensive information on the

characteristics of the protein and other valuable information which can be used in immunoassays. The antibodies may be raised to fusion proteins containing defined portions of the HRR polypeptide or may be raised to protein fragments which are prepared by chemical synthesis. As already noted, fusion proteins may be developed by expression of vectors in suitable hosts. As to the chemical synthesis of the proteins, this is well within the skill of those knowledgeable in the art.

10 With the purified protein, which may be a developed by affinity chromatography, the protein fragments are coupled to a suitable carrier protein and injected into rabbits. Sera from the rabbits immunized with the protein fragments is screened in accordance with standard techniques to raise polyclonal antibodies. In accordance with well understood techniques, monoclonal antibodies may also be raised in accordance with the methodology of Kohlar and Millstein [Nature, 256:495 (1975)]. Mice are immunized with the selected protein as conjugated with suitable carrier. Hybridomas are developed and screened to select the desired monoclonal antibody. The antibodies, either poly or mono, are used in diagnostic determinations to detect the presence of certain epitopes of protein.

25 DNA sequences may also be subjected to site directed mutagenesis for comparative function expression studies. If the nature of the human and pig mutations are very different, as is suggested by the different modes of inheritance of MH in humans (dominant) and pig (co-dominant), it may be desirable to create animal models which more closely resemble each human mutation. This could be achieved by site directed mutagenesis in conjunction with homologous recombination in embryonic stem cells, or by use of retrovirus vectors to create transgenic animals.

EXAMPLE 1

The Ca<sup>2+</sup> release channel complex of rabbit skeletal muscle was isolated from heavy sarcoplasmic r ticulum membranes enriched in [3H]ryanodine binding and 45Ca<sup>2+</sup> release activity by solubilization in CHAPS, followed by density gradient centrifugation through 5-20% sucrose (Lai et al., supra). The [3H]ryanodine receptor peak was collected, concentrated and recentrifuged. SDS polyacrylamide gel analysis of the pooled [3H]ryanodine receptor peak on a linear 5-12% polyacrylamide gradient gel revealed a single major high molecular weight band with an apparent relative molecular mass of approximately 400,000 daltons (Lai et al., supra). Therefore, in accordance with this technique, the ryanodine receptor protein was isolated and purified.

Hydrophilic tryptic peptides from the purified ryanodine receptor were separated by reverse phase-HPLC and subjected to automated NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal analysis by Edman degradation in an Applied Biosystems 470 gas phase sequenator with an on-line HPLC system for phenylthiohydantoin derivative analysis.

EXAMPLE 2.

The  $\lambda$ gt11 cDNA expression library, constructed from poly(A)+RNA from rabbit fast-twitch psoas muscle as described in Ellis, S. B. et al., Science 241: 1661-1664, (1988). It is understood by those skilled in the art that any library prepared from skeletal muscle according to established methods should be representative of the RNA species present in the tissue, and can therefore be the source of the clone to be isolated. The library was screened with an affinity-purified polyclonal antibody (Zorzato et al., supra) specific for the Ca<sup>2+</sup> release channel. Screening of the library was carried out by the method of Young and Davis, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 80: 1194-1198, (1983).

The screening of  $3 \times 10^6$  recombinant clones led to the isolation of two cDNA clones in the region defined by



nucl tide 14280-14629 and 13434-13758 in Figure 2.  
Analysis of the s quenc s of these clon s showed that  
both were rearranged when compared to the linear sequence  
of the human cDNA. Accordingly, restriction endonuclease  
5 fragments from these isolated cDNA clones were used as  
probes to isolate longer, unrearranged cDNA clones from  
the neonatal rabbit skeletal muscle cDNA library  
previously described by MacLennan et al., supra. The  
longest clone obtained was 6.8 kb and it is defined by  
10 nucleotide 8615-15241 in Figure 2. This clone was  
subcloned into the Bluescript® (Stratagene) plasmid  
vector and sequenced.

The clone was extended by construction of a primer  
extension library using 100 ug of neonatal rabbit muscle  
15 poly(A)+ RNA. The primer site was defined with 0.25  
nmol of an 18mer oligonucleotide complementary to the  
rabbit equivalent of nucleotides 9118 to 9135 in Figure  
2. Primer extension was carried out using the Bethesda  
Research Laboratories cDNA synthesis kit. In vitro  
20 packaging was performed with 1-2 ul aliquots of each  
ligation mixture using the Gigapack Gold packaging  
extract. Subsequent screening was carried out with the  
unamplified library. In the first primer extension, the  
cDNA was extended up to nucleotide 4527. In the second  
25 extension, an 18mer oligonucleotide complementary to the  
rabbit equivalent of residues 4892 to 4909 in Figure 2  
was used to extend the cDNA to nucleotide 3231. In the  
third and final primer extension, an 18mer  
oligonucleotide complementary to the rabbit equivalent of  
30 residues 3499 to 3516 in Figure 2 was used to extend the  
sequence into the 5' untranslated region of the mRNA.

### EXAMPLE 3

Rabbit ryanodine receptor cDNA probes were used to  
screen a human skeletal muscle cDNA library in  $\lambda$ gt10,  
35 described in Koenig, M. et al., Cell, 50: 509 - 517,  
(1987). In the first screen, over 30 clones w re isolated  
but only one, of about 2000 bp (clone 2 in Figure 1), had

an internal EcoR1 r stricti n site. All others terminated at an EcoR1 restriction site 1641 bp upstream of the poly(A) site (Figure 2), suggesting that the cDNA used to make the library was undermethylated, allowing  
5 the full length cDNA to be cleaved at EcoR1 sites prior to its ligation into the  $\lambda$ gt10 vector. Accordingly, it was necessary to isolate rabbit cDNA clones first and then to use them as probes to identify and isolate new human cDNA clones. Eventually, a series of 6 linear cDNA  
10 clones were isolated from the library using rabbit cDNA probes (Figure 1). As a further complication in the isolation of human cDNA clones, an adenine rich region between residues 8501 and 8512 in Figure 2 acted as a second priming site for cDNA synthesis. While this led  
15 to the synthesis of an enhanced number of clones upstream of this site, it also terminated transcription. Thus clones 4 and 5 in Figure 1 were separated, not by an EcoR1 cleavage site, but by an actual gap in the cDNA. Clone 6 was the last cDNA clone isolated from the library  
20 and it represented the 5' end of cDNAs primed at the internal Poly(A) site. The final clone, clone 7, was obtained from a primer extension library constructed from human skeletal muscle mRNA using the protocols that were used for primer extension of rabbit skeletal muscle mRNA.  
25 In this case the primer was a 17mer oligonucleotide complementary to residues 2620 to 2636 in Figure 2. Genomic DNA encoding sequences overlapping the various EcoR1 restriction sites and the gap in the cDNA introduced by the second primer initiating site were  
30 isolated from a chromosome 19-specific library under the designation Lawrence Livermore LL19NL01 Human Chromosome 19 library in Charon 4A by the American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, MD.

#### EXAMPLE 4

35 Muscle was clamped, carefully dissected and transported to the laboratory in carbogenated Krebs Ringer solution maintained at 22°C and pH 7.4. Also in

carb generated Krebs Ringer solution, biopsies were trimmed free of fat and divided into strips of one to five mm by 10 to 20 mm of approximately 100 to 300 mg. Only intact muscle strips were used. Muscle strips were secured  
5 at one end by a silk suture to a plastic electrode frame and placed in a 40 ml bathing chamber containing Krebs Ringer solution at 37°C and pH 7.4 and aerated with 95% O<sub>2</sub>, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> at 20 ml per minute. The muscle strip was then secured at the other end to a force displacement  
10 transducer which was coupled to a polygraph used to record the muscle tension.

Although preferred embodiments of the invention have been described herein in detail, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that variations may be made  
15 thereto without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

CLAIMS

1. Substantially purified DNA sequence encoding for human ryanodine receptor, said DNA sequence being characterized by:
  - 5       i) said DNA encoding for a protein having 5032 amino acids and a molecular weight of approximately 563,000 daltons;
  - ii) said DNA having length of approximately 15.3 kb; and
  - 10       iii) isolated from chromosome 19 of humans.
2. DNA of claim 1 wherein said DNA has a restriction map of Figure 1.
- 15 3. Substantially purified cDNA having the sequence encoding for amino acid positions 1 to 5032 of Figure 2.
4. A DNA probe which includes a fragment of said DNA of claim 1, 2, or 3.
- 20 5. A DNA probe of claim 4 wherein a suitable label is attached to said DNA fragment to indicate hybridization in a DNA probe assay.
- 25 6. A DNA probe which includes one or more DNA sequences selected from the group of DNA sequences consisting of:
  - i) HRR-1 of approximately 1.6 kb spanning nucleotides 13602 to 15243 of Figure 2;
  - ii) HRR-2 of approximately 2 kb spanning
  - 30       nucleotides 11613 to 13607 of Figure 2;
  - iii) HRR-3 of approximately 3.1 kb spanning nucleotides 8515 to 11618 of Figure 2;
  - iv) HRR-3-1000 of approximately 1 kb spanning nucleotides 8515 to 9554 of Figure 2;
  - 35       v) HRR-3-1200 of approximately 1.2 kb spanning nucleotides 9549 to 10851 of Figure 2;

- vi) HRR-4 of approximately 2.4 kb spanning nucleotides 6125 to 8493 of Figure 2;
- vii) HRR-5 of approximately 3.8 kb spanning nucleotides 2391 to 6135 of Figure 2;
- 5 viii) HRR-7A of approximately 2.2 kb spanning nucleotides 186 to 2396 of Figure 2; and
- ix) HRR-7B of approximately 0.4 kb spanning nucleotides 104 to 549 of Figure 2.
- 10 7. A selected said DNA probe of claim 6 for use in conducting RFLP analysis of families to detect members of such family who are susceptible to malignant hyperthermia.
- 15 8. A cloning vector including a fragment or the entire DNA sequence of claim 1, 2, or 3.
9. A suitable host adapted for expressing DNA and producing a corresponding encoded protein, said host
- 20 being characterized by a cloning vector including a fragment of or the entire DNA sequence of claim 1, 2, or 3.
10. Human ryanodine receptor protein or amino acid
- 25 fragments thereof when produced by culturing a suitable host which is adapted to express a recombinant vector which includes a fragment of or the entire DNA sequence of claim 1, 2, or 3.
- 30 11. Substantially purified human ryanodine receptor protein which is free of any foreign human protein having a molecular weight of approximately 563,000 daltons and an amino acid sequence of Figure 2.
- 35 12. A protein fragment free of foreign human protein having an amino acid sequence which is a portion of said

amino acid sequence of said human ryanodine receptor of claim 11.

13. A substantially purified antibody specific to said  
5 protein fragment of claim 12.

14. An antibody of claim 13 which is a polyclonal antibody.

10 15. An antibody of claim 13 which is a monoclonal antibody.

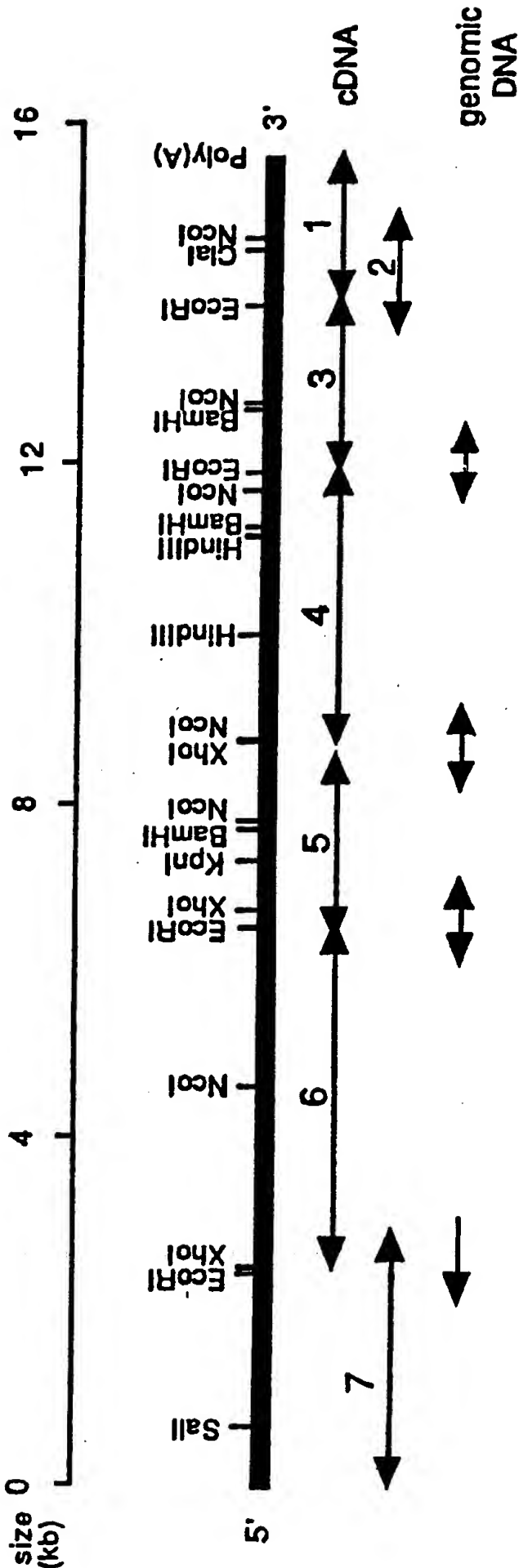
16. A diagnostic DNA assay for determining  
susceptibility of a person to malignant hyperthermia  
15 where said person is from a family of one or more  
individuals who is susceptible to malignant hyperthermia,  
said assay comprising the steps of:

- i) isolating DNA from at least chromosome 19 of a person being tested;
- 20 ii) performing RFLP analysis on said isolated chromosome 19 DNA and using selected DNA probes of claim 6 as RFLP markers in said RFLP analysis;
- iii) detecting linkage with RFLP analysis of an affected family individual to determine if said  
25 person is susceptible to malignant hyperthermia.

17. The use of one or more selected DNA probes of claim 6 for determining malignant hyperthermia in a pig.

30 18. The use of an antibody of claim 13 in an immunoassay to determine if a subject is susceptible to malignant hyperthermia.

FIG.1.



[illegible]



FIG. 2A:

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]







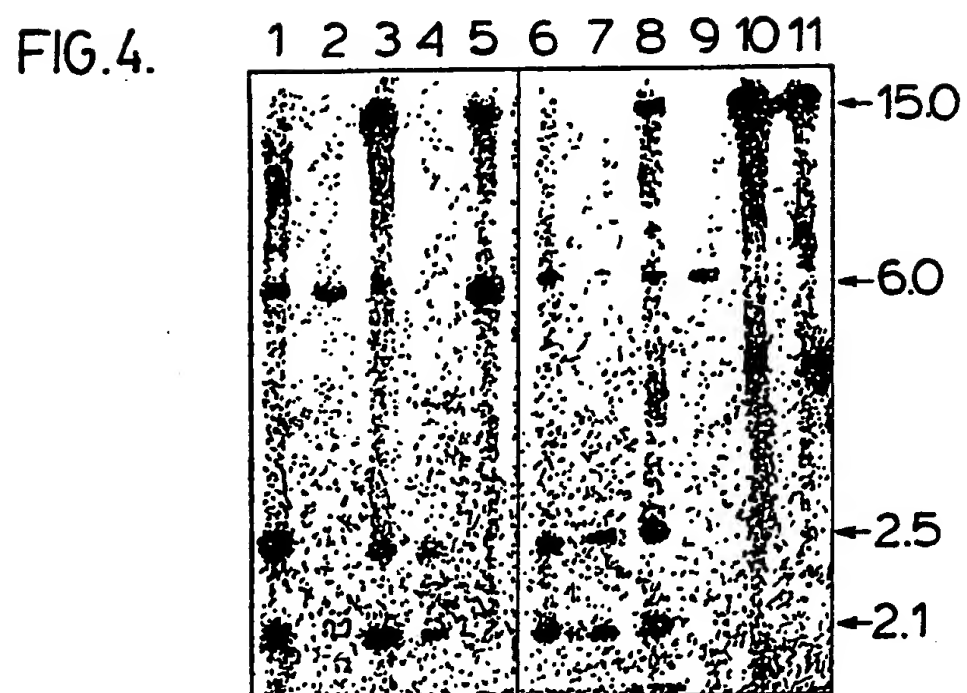
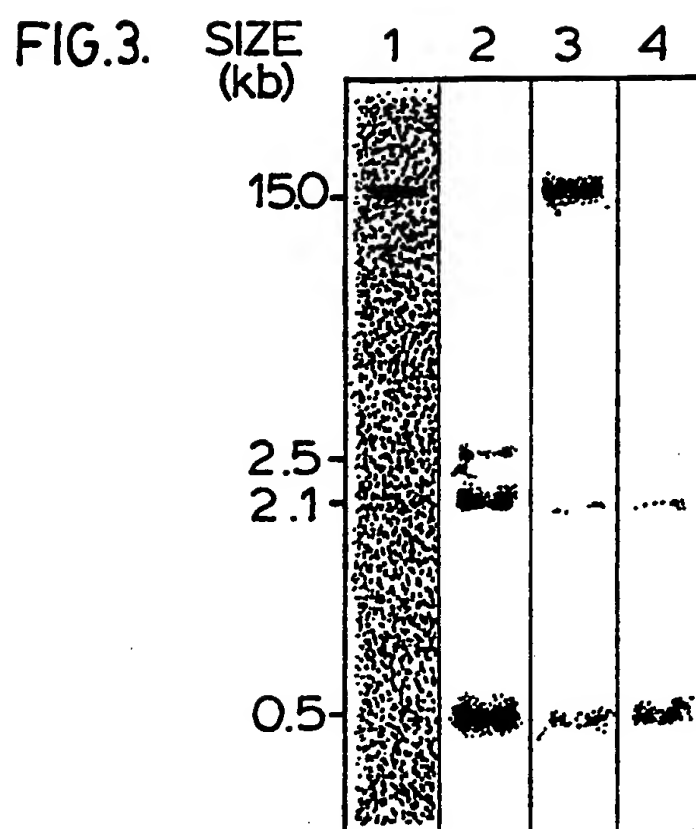
9/12

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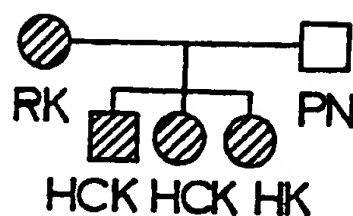
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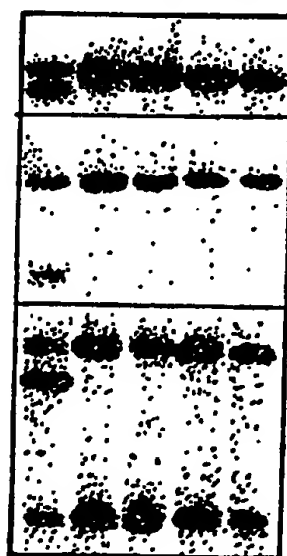
12 / 12

FIG.5A.

## MH FAMILY 5



R=REACTION  
H=+ve HALOTHANE  
C=+ve CAFFEINE  
K=+ve CAFF.+HAL.  
PN=PRESUM. NORM



22 HRR3

19

11.5 HRR4

8.4

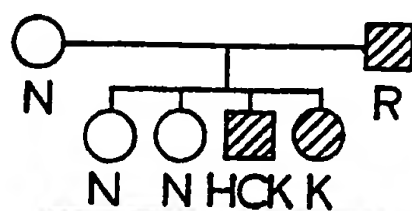
C HRR3

6.5

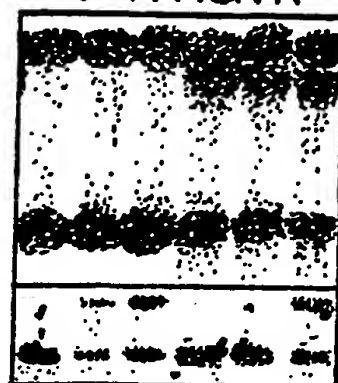
4.4

FIG.5B.

## MH FAMILY 12



R=REACTION  
H=+ve HALOTHANE  
C=+ve CAFFEINE  
K=+ve CAFF.+HAL.  
N=NORMAL TESTS



C HRR3

6.5

4.4

3.8

3.5

APO CII

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/CA 90/00312

<b>I. CLASSIFICATION F SUBJECT MATTER</b> (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) * According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC IPC <sup>5</sup> : C 12 N 15/12, C 12 P 21/02, C 12 P 21/08, C 07 K 13/00, IPC <sup>5</sup> : C 12 Q 1/68, G 01 N 33/50											
<b>II. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> <div style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;">Minimum Documentation Searched <sup>7</sup></div> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Classification System</th> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Classification Symbols</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">IPC<sup>5</sup></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">C 07 K, C 12 N, C 12 P, G 01 N, C 12 Q</td> </tr> </table> <div style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;">Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched <sup>8</sup></div>			Classification System	Classification Symbols	IPC <sup>5</sup>	C 07 K, C 12 N, C 12 P, G 01 N, C 12 Q					
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<b>III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT <sup>9</sup></b> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 10%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Category <sup>9</sup></th> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup></th> <th style="width: 10%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup></th> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Nature, vol. 339, 8 June 1989, (London, GB), H. Takeshima et al.: "Primary structure and expression from complementary DNA of skeletal muscle ryanodine receptor", pages 439-445 see the whole article cited in the application --</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">X</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Journal of Biological Chemistry, vol. 264, no. 3, 25 January 1989, (Baltimore, US), G. Meissner et al.: "Structural and functional correlation of the trypsin-digested Ca<sup>2+</sup> release channel of skeletal muscle sarcoplasmic reticulum", pages 1715-1722 see the whole article cited in the application --  ./.</td> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">13,14</td> </tr> </table>			Category <sup>9</sup>	Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup>	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup>	A	Nature, vol. 339, 8 June 1989, (London, GB), H. Takeshima et al.: "Primary structure and expression from complementary DNA of skeletal muscle ryanodine receptor", pages 439-445 see the whole article cited in the application --	1	X	Journal of Biological Chemistry, vol. 264, no. 3, 25 January 1989, (Baltimore, US), G. Meissner et al.: "Structural and functional correlation of the trypsin-digested Ca <sup>2+</sup> release channel of skeletal muscle sarcoplasmic reticulum", pages 1715-1722 see the whole article cited in the application --  ./.	13,14
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>* Special categories of cited documents: <sup>10</sup></p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"A" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>											
<b>IV. CERTIFICATION</b> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search</td> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">Date of Mailing of this International Search Report</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">29th November 1990</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">24 JAN 1991</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">International Searching Authority</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">Signature of Authorized Officer</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;">EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> </table>			Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report	29th November 1990	24 JAN 1991	International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer	EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE		
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29th November 1990	24 JAN 1991										
International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer										
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III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)		
Category *	Citation of Document, " with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No.
X	Chemical Abstracts, vol. 107, no. 1, 6 July 1987, (Columbus, Ohio, US), K.P. Campbell et al.: "Identification and characterization of the high affinity (3H)ryanodine receptor of the junctional sarcoplasmic reticulum calcium release channel", see page 271, abstract 2874g, & J. Biol. Chem. 1987, 262(14), 6460-3	13,15
P,X	-- Journal of Biological Chemistry, vol. 265, no. 4, 5 February 1990, (Baltimore, US), F. Zorzato et al.: "Molecular cloning of cDNA encoding human and rabbit forms of the Ca <sup>2+</sup> release channel (ryanodine receptor) of skeletal muscle sarcoplasmic reticulum", pages 2244-2256 see the whole article  -----	1-12,17